

## HAMNET UPDATE 7 SEPTEMBER

**NEW DISASTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR SOUTH AFRICA** A new disaster management system for South Africa, bringing all 3 tiers of government together to handle disasters of any kind, is likely to be put in motion by the end of this year.

It will require the national government, every province and every metropolitan and district municipality to establish a disaster management center, to cover disasters of national, provincial or local nature, including humanitarian aid to those affected.

The present system focuses on relief, while the new policy is based on a White Paper, which emphasizes steps to avoid and minimize human and economic losses, including warnings to the public about possible dangers.

Among key features of the new national disaster management system are:

? To ensure the reduction of risk in cases of foreseeable danger; ? To build sufficient capacity to respond to disasters; ? To give the national, provincial or local government the authority to fund post-disaster recovery; and ? To ensure “rapid and effective” action to restore normality.

We, as Hamnet, have already been approached for input from our side as to how the Amateur Radio fraternity, who are specifically trained for emergency communication, can fit into this new system.

Jan Schubart, ZS6ARV, has been approached to supply the necessary information to Henk van Elst, who is an authority on the subject of disaster management and we believe the person who is responsible for the development of the new system.

We look forward in anticipation as to how the new system will work and where we will fit into the scheme of things.

## GUJARAT (INDIA) EARTHQUAKE STATISTICS

On January 26th at approximately 8:46 local time, an earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter Scale occurred in western India. The epicenter was placed approximately 69 kilometers northeast of Bhuj in Gurat State.

According to the Government of India, the earthquake impacted nearly 8000 villages in 21 districts, resulting in 20,000 deaths, approximately 170,000 injuries and almost 16 million people affected.

Damage to infrastructure exceeded \$453 million. Approx. 1 million houses, 23,000 schoolrooms were damaged or destroyed and three hospitals, 21 primary health centers, four community health centers and 140 health sub-centers were lost. In addition, the earthquake disrupted water supply, sanitation, electrical, communication and transport systems. Destroyed mills, food warehouses and irrigation structures.

At present, there are problems in the following areas of the world.

Floods in India, the ongoing Chechnya problems, Afghanistan, the Great Lakes region, the Balkans and West Africa.

HAMNET BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2001 COMPILED  
AND PREPARED BY FRANCOIS ZS6BUU

IN THE BULLETIN TODAY Bulletins around the country Outstanding Questionnaires Hamnet Repeater Frequencies Professionalism in Emergency Communications New Divisional Structuring Final Database News from around the country

#### HAMNET BULLETINS AROUND THE COUNTRY

Sunday mornings kick off with Hamnet KZN. They start at 07H15 on their local VHF repeaters with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Wally ZS5WP.

Then there is the national Bulletin on 10,130Mhz in the 30M band with a relay on 7.070Mhz by Martin ZS6MSG. In Gauteng, 145,700Mhz is also used for a local transmission. The time is 16:30 local until propagation improves when it will revert to 17H00.

Next we have Gauteng North. Their bulletin runs from 18H00 local on 145.725Mhz with a relay on 3,650 by Rudie ZS6DX.

Next is North West Province with a club bulletin on Mondays at 19H00 local on 3,750Mhz in the 80M band as well as their local repeater on 145.737.5Mhz output for those who already fall into the new band plan.

Last but not least the Hamnet Western Cape Province. They run a bulletin on Wednesdays at 20H30 local on 3,674 relayed by Matt ZS1MJJ in the 80M band and on their local repeaters, 145:625Mhz, 145:700Mhz, 145:750Mhz and various other links.

Whatever you missed is available in the Hamnet Website within the S. A. R. L. Website under the heading "Hamnet News regularly updated", or it may have been sent to you by Packet radio thanks to Rudie ZS6DX.

#### OUTSTANDING QUESTIONNAIRE'S

PLEASE LET ME HAVE THE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONNAIRES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THIS IS HAMPERING THE ISSUING OF THE NEW I. D. CARD FOR HAMNET MEMBERS. YOU MAY RECALL, YOUR OFFICIAL BAR CODED I. D. NUMBER NOW FORMS PART OF THE NEW CARD AND WE NEED THAT NUMBER BEFORE WE CAN START ISSUING NEW HAMNET I. D. CARDS.

As far as possible, the new Database has now been completed and will be installed on to the League's Computer during the next few days. At the council meeting on 15 September, we hope to have the Database available on a CD for installation on any computer and a copy for each Councilor.

## HAMNET FREQUENCIES 2 METERS

The central Wits repeater as it was known on 145,700 was removed from its current location to a new location to be run and maintained by the Sandton Branch.

Hamnet does not “own” frequencies if one can put it that way. The term we use is “preferred” frequency. On 2 Meters, 145,700Mhz countrywide has always been regarded as the “preferred” frequency for emergency communication. This specific frequency may not always be in a situation where it can be accessed for an emergency. In such cases an alternative frequency may be “preferred” and communication may continue on another repeater or simplex frequency.

The demand on our services of late has been quiet and we hope it will stay that way. However, should an emergency arise, we respectfully and in the spirit of Amateur Radio, request that 145,700Mhz still be regarded as a first choice emergency communication frequency.

On 7,070 in the 40 meter band we again request that conversations continue as usual but please be aware that this is Hamnet’s “preferred” frequency for emergency communication and that we leave a reasonable pause for a station to break in should there be an emergency.

## PROFESSIONALISM IN EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.

It has come to my attention that offering your service as a communicator in any sporting or other events, you will be taxed on your “Professionalism as a communicator”. Being a member of Hamnet, is no passport to acceptance.

We need to prove our efficiency when the chips are down. Can you meet those requirements?

It may surprise you, but in countries like America, Britain, Australia and so on, becoming a select member of an Emergency Communications Unit, you need to prove yourself by way of passing certain exams and other criteria to ensure acceptance.

We do not lay down strict rules at this stage, and I am aware of certain modules having been compiled by Jan Schubart ZS6ARV. I intend to have a look at those modules but will, at this stage, not enforce their completion but make it voluntary.

But be aware of the level of professionalism that is expected of us.

## NEW DIVISIONAL RESTRUCTURING CODING

We still await the coding format for the various Municipalities around the country. It is essential that we become aware of the various new councils and name changes that have taken place around the country.

As soon as this list becomes available, it will be either distributed via our Internet Website or by some other means. My suggestions at present is that should

you get a call of an emergency in some unpronounceable name, please find out what this area was called before the name change, to avoid confusion.

#### HAMNET DATABASE FINAL LISTINGS

Herewith the current list call signs only, of Amateur Radio Operators who have indicated their willingness to remain on as Hamnet members.

ZR1JPA ZR1PDT ZR1SBM ZR2T ZR4DJ ZR4G ZR4MJ ZR5CW  
ZR5DES ZR6DAN ZR6HF ZR6JHB ZR6MDK ZR6NC ZS1BMT  
ZS1DFR ZS2AOZ ZS2FM ZS2GIN ZS2IV ZS2MW ZS2OC ZS2RT  
ZS2U ZS2W ZS3BR ZS30C ZS4A ZS4AT ZS4C ZS4EP ZS4HX  
ZS4JR ZS4KC ZS4PA ZS4PK ZS4PV ZS4RN ZS4TV ZS4VS ZS4ZR  
ZS5ABD ZS5BBO ZS5BP ZS5CD ZS5GN ZS5GR ZS5IH ZS5J  
ZS5JAN ZS5KD ZS5LP ZS5LS ZS5M ZS5PJ ZS5Q ZS5R ZS5SK  
ZS5TT ZS5TUB ZS5VE ZS5VO/6 ZS5WFD ZS5WI ZS5WP ZS5YG  
ZS6ACT ZS6ALJ ZS6ANU ZS6APO ZS6ARV ZS6AYC ZS6BBE  
ZS6BDL ZS6BKO ZS6BML ZS6BNE ZS6BTM ZS6BUU ZS6BXL  
ZS6BXP ZS6BYQ ZS6CZI ZS6DX ZS6GC ZS6GMJ ZS6HH ZS6HLJ  
ZS6L ZS6MCG ZS6MWG ZS6NKM ZS6RX ZS6TY ZS6VB ZS6VXN  
ZS6WAL ZS6WC ZS6XU ZS6ZGL ZS6ZR Z21KI/R Z21KJ/R.

#### LATE CONFIRMATIONS

ZS6PHD ZS6GPM ZS6RAP ZS6MAC ZS6AKI ZS6NS ZR1IKB ZS5HV  
ZR6LDW ZS1B ZS2PJP -

One hundred and fourteen confirmed to date. All unconfirmed members have now be deleted from the list, and the remaining confirmed members will form the core of the new Hamnet Group from which we will build our emergency Communication Network.

#### NEWS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

A newspaper clipping was faxed to me from Tubby Waldeck ZS5TUB which appeared in the local Amanzimtoti newspaper. In fact it was an interview with Tubby on his Amateur Radio hobby. What was also good about the article is the publicity that Hamnet as an Emergency Organization of the S. A. R. L. received.

Well done Tubby and thank your for sending me this clipping.

Apart from listening to the various bulletins, should there be news from your area for the main bulletin, please send your contributions to either jans@netdial.co.za or francois@overflow.co.za.

Contributions are always welcome and it also supplements the Sunday get together on 10,130 and 7,070. It also helps to ad some spice to the regular Sunday bulletin.

Bulletin Ends